

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-33 (Cancelled).

34. (New) A method of inhibiting adipogenesis comprising:

contacting at least one cell with a truncated *DEC1/Stra13* polypeptide lacking a *DEC1/Stra13* repressor domain, wherein the truncated *DEC1/Stra13* polypeptide comprises a basic helix loop helix domain of *DEC1/Stra13*; in an amount effective to decrease *PPAR γ 2* promoter activity, whereby expression of *PPAR γ 2* is reduced and said adipogenesis is inhibited.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the truncated polypeptide has an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1-141 of SEQ ID NO:2.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the truncated polypeptide has an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1-141 of SEQ ID NO:4.

37. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the truncated polypeptide further comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.

38. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the truncated polypeptide further comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.

39. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the truncated polypeptide further comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.

40. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said at least one cell is a mammalian cell.
41. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said at least one cell as a 3T3-L1 cell.
42. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the truncated *DEC1/Stra13* polypeptide is administered to a patient in a therapeutically-effective amount to measurably inhibit adipogenesis.
43. (New) A method of inhibiting adipogenesis comprising:
contacting at least one cell with a full length *DEC1/Stra13* polypeptide; in an amount effective to decrease *PPAR γ 2* promoter activity, whereby expression of *PPAR γ 2* is reduced and said adipogenesis is inhibited.
44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said at least one cell is a mammalian cell.
45. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said at least one cell as a 3T3-L1 cell.
46. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the *DEC1/Stra13* polypeptide is administered to a patient in a therapeutically-effective amount to measurably inhibit adipogenesis.